

ed leave to make one remark, with a view
Minister right on an important point.
resent merely proposed to effect reductions
functionaries of the Woods and Forests.
they were too numerous, and that some of
dispensed with.
of FINANCE said that the object of the
increase the revenue of the Forests, and
had thought it necessary to maintain the
the salaries of the superior agents.
indeed many of them were very mode-
even of the Forests had since 1832 in-
5 millions, and that could only be attri-
been better attended to. If the person-
established on the footing of 1832 the num-
ould be necessarily decreased, and yet it
uch of those now employed had 22,000
The other agents, such as the keepers,
cupation, and to diminish their number
anize a very important branch of the
decrease a considerable revenue.
that the administration of the forests cost
millions, and the only reduction pro-
posed was 503,000fr., and that fell ex-
tremely on the persons employed. The
ministry was that the number employed
Employments had been created ex-
tinction, without at all consulting the
vice. In 1832 there were 21 conserva-
fr.; there were now 32, at an expense
2 there had been 95 inspectors-general,
n amounted to 355,000fr., now there
3,000fr.; the increase had, therefore,
fr. It was not the number of agents
t, it was that they should be men of
uations. He admitted that the produce
reased from 21 millions to 38 millions,
to be attributed to the advance in the
in localities, than to the interest of the
opposed the suppression of the em-
ended that the wants of the service-
ent organization should remain intact.
the hon. Minister of Finance, that the
rived from the forests was owing to the
ch had been adopted since 1832. He
le against the reduction proposed by the
more so as that reduction was only adopt-
by a very small majority.
that after the remark which had been
gentleman who had just spoken, he felt
that the Minister of Finance had been
on the subject, and from the explana-
he (M. Guin) considered that, under
s, there would be danger in admitting
ded by the Committee.
half of the Committee, persisted in the
was convinced that the administration
the adoption of the reduction, which
ed until after the most mature con-
"Divide, divide!"
-When the working of an administra-
examined, a committee cannot have
it. (Cries of "Order! order!")
to be able to check the proceedings of
a long study of all its machinery is-
ed the tribune amidst loud cries of
just now the Committee of Finance
ith having the pretension of effecting
ing the subject under its consideration,
declare that the Committee has exam-
ed carefully, and acted on the conclu-
at examination. The Committee, in
it had a right to do. If the Assembly
ment assumed the initiative in pro-
that you will never see the present
diminished. (Divide! divide!)
I shall now put to the vote the reduc-
committee of Finance.
the number of conservators of forests
ed, the second, to reduce from 158
spectors-general, was also agreed to.
of the travelling expenses of the
ed. The chapters themselves were
o'clock, the Assembly rose.
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December 26 April. 26 August. 26
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March 26 July. 26 November. 26
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N° 10,353. PARIS, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1848. Estab'd 1814.

A Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 4, 1848.
INDIA.—The intelligence from India to the 1st November affords an unwelcome and most significant commentary on that policy of diplomatic credulity and military procrastination which has characterized all our relations towards the Sikh disturbers and tyrants of the Punjab. We have delayed, where we ought to have struck, and struck home—we have believed most blindly, where we ought to have doubted and distrusted most keenly—we have been facile, where we ought to have been stern and unyielding—we have frittered and flung away the substantial fruits of hard-won victories, when they were already within our grasp. We have taken for granted the allegiance of fanatical and faithless hordes of half-conquered invaders of our frontier, and we have lent our strength to bolster up a feeble and demoralized Government, which either cannot, or will not—or rather, which neither can nor will—fulfil any international obligation. The result is now before us. Another "army of the Punjab," and another war, to be conducted on the largest scale known to the history of British India, must repair the error which was committed in the abortive arrangement of 1846, and whose consequences have been subsequently aggravated by blunders of administrative and military detail. Our only satisfaction is, that the present posture of affairs is one which renders the path of duty and sound policy unmistakably plain, and that the destinies of our Indian Empire are, at this juncture, in the hands of a man capable of knowing a fact when he sees it, and of appreciating and responding to the demands of an emergency. We may here state, in the very briefest manner, the general bearings of the intelligence brought by the present mail. There appears little room for doubting, that the capital of the Punjab, at the period to which our latest information extends, was about to become the focus of combined operations on the part of various corps of insurgent Sikhs, with the very probable addition of the treacherous co-operation of a strong party within its walls. Shere Singh, after having necessitated, by his treacherous defection, the raising of the siege of Multan, had, it seems, been permitted—whether wisely or unwisely is a military question on which we have not data for pronouncing—to draw off his forces, without molestation, in the direction of Lahore; his reported intention being, to effect a junction with his father, Chuttur Singh, for the purpose of making a combined attack on that city. By the latest accounts were led to believe that this junction had actually taken place, at Wuzeerabad, within little more than sixty miles distance from Lahore. In the meanwhile, we hear of a proclamation having been circulated among all the Punjab Chiefs, nominating a new Government, which includes the names of Dhuleep Singh, Gholab Singh, and Chuttur Singh. Whatever may be the precise value of this statement, as symptomatic of a universal Sikh rising, the gravity of the crisis may be sufficiently inferred, in general, from the fact, that even Sir Frederick Currie has taken alarm at last, and awakened (partially at least) from the dreamy somnolence in which he had so long indulged. We are informed that he has hurriedly summoned troops from Ferozepore, and recalled, by special message, Colonel Eckford's brigade, which had just set off on its march to succour and reinforce General Whish. We are sorry to have to make any deduction from the value of this tardy display of vigilance and caution; but we cannot regard with indifference the rumour that the aid of five or six thousand of Gholab Singh's Cashmerian forces had been offered, and accepted, with the view of checking the advance, or assailing the position, of Chuttur Singh. After all the experience we have had—and had so recently—of the value of Sikh co-operation, this seems amazing. But, after all the experience we have likewise had of the inexhaustible credulity of our political and military authorities in that quarter of the world, nothing appears more natural than that the British resident at Lahore should still be a devout believer in Gholab Singh, and should esteem himself fortunate in securing the military services of allies who, in all human probability, are only seeking an opportunity of effecting a junction with the enemy. Under these critical and anxious circumstances, it is with the liveliest satisfaction that we see reason for believing that the Governor-General of India is clearly cognizant of the great realities of his position, and is determined to grapple with them manfully. Those who augured most hopefully of Lord Dalhousie's fitness, not merely for the judicious and efficient discharge of the ordinary duties of an administrator, but for meeting exigencies that might task the wisdom and courage of the statesman, will not be disappointed by what they now learn respecting his views and intentions in the Punjab. The sentiments which his lordship is reported as having expressed, at an entertainment given on the eve of his departure for the Upper Provinces, are those of a man who accepts, with his whole heart and soul, a duty most repugnant to his dispositions and inclinations, because it is a duty—and who brings to an unsought and painful task the resolute energy which most men are only capable of exerting in the direction of their habitual tastes and preferences. Never did manifesto set forth, with more plain and truth, the grounds and the justification of a war, than do those few words of Lord Dalhousie's, in which he declares his reluctant acceptance of the responsibilities cast upon him, by the audacious and inveterate treachery of the Sikh masters of that puppet Government which we unhappily established at Lahore:—"I came to this country a friend to peace. I wished for peace, I hoped for peace, I strove for peace; and the whole of my mind and the efforts of my Government were for peace and its happy results. I have been disappointed; war has come upon us, and that people and that country, unwarned by precedent, and uninfluenced by example, have called for war, and, on my word, sirs, war they shall have, and with a vengeance." Presuming that this emphatic language can have but one meaning, as regards the policy and ultimate object of the approaching Punjab war, we are sure that it will be deemed, by all persons who understand India, to entitle Lord Dalhousie to the cordial confidence and support of the British Government and people. Odious as is war to the public mind of this country, and adverse as we are to any territorial

extension of an empire that is already almost inconveniently vast, there is one thing more odious still, in all wise men's eyes, than even war and annexation—namely, a patched-up peace that contains the germs of inevitable future war. Such was our last peace with the Sikhs—such must not be our next. That sort of truce with anarchy and invasion, which was the well-meant but unhappy sequel to our last Sikh war—that system of holding rebellion in solution, as it were, through the medium of a "native Government too feeble to exist without our aid, and too false to be trusted out of our sight"—this ill-judged policy is an experiment which, we presume, no man in his senses will recommend for further trial. We are persuaded that we express the deliberate conviction of all thinking persons in this country, when we say, that the affairs of the Punjab must now be settled only once more—settled, once for all, by the definitive reduction of its lawless soldiery, and its faithless and powerless Government, into subjection to British rule, and by the unreserved admission of its wretched people within the boundaries of the British Empire. A policy of annexation is here a policy of peace and mercy. As this second Punjab war is thrust upon us without our seeking, and against our desire and endeavours, humanity and policy alike enjoin us to take care that it be the last.—(CHRONICLE.)

THE FALL OF THE POPE.—On the 24th of November the Roman Pontiff privately left the city of Rome, and repaired to Gaeta, where it was expected that he would embark for France on a vessel of war belonging to the French Republic. Whether it be to those who watch the progress of contemporary occurrences by the fitful and mysterious light of prophecy, or to the larger class of those whose political speculations bear a more exclusive reference to the mundane causes of human affairs, the cessation of the temporal power of the Pope is an event of extreme interest and importance. It is not the mere abdication or deposition of a temporal prince, who sinks into the monastery of St. Just or the privacy of Claremont; it is not even to be compared to those periods of captivity or oppression in which the entire Papal authority was interrupted by exile or duress. Pius IX has been deprived of what was only the outward form and convenient defence of his supremacy and independence. His fall has been the consequence of the baseness and ingratitude of his own subjects, and his expulsion from Rome is the first great result of the machinations of that party which has long been labouring in secret to make that Imperial city the centre of Italian unity, and of an unlimited national democracy. "There has been a Rome of the Caesars," said Joseph Mazzini in 1845; "there has been a Rome of the Popes: the Rome of the Italian people has yet to burst forth." To do that conspirator justice, he has followed out the objects of his political life with unwavering tenacity. For many years past, even when it was the fashion with a party in this country to sympathize with his fierce and fanatical patriotism, we have pointed him out as one of the most daring and unscrupulous revolutionists in Europe; and a murder stained with more than the traditional atrocity of Italian history has now opened to his party the long-desired seat of power. For Rome of the Italian people has burst forth indeed. For Rome herself we can foresee no other or more appropriate chastisement than to be consigned to the sway of such rulers and to the depravity of her own people. These democratic revolutions have taught the world a lesson, which, in France have borne the fruit of experience. The intervention of foreign armies at an early period of these occurrences only converts the cause of a faction into that of the nation. Forms of government which profess to derive their authority from the extreme of license amongst an ignorant, fanatical, and excitable people, are swiftly followed by their own retribution; and though it may be terrible to contemplate the destruction in this furnace of anarchy of all that embellishes and even sustains life, yet, if this be the will of the people itself, such lessons will not be endured in vain. Let the world behold "this Rome of the Italian people;" let Italy judge of the talents for government of the men whose lives have been passed in dark conspiracies and sanguinary inroads on her laws and on her peace. We have no doubt and no fear as to the result, whatever regret we may feel for the innocent sufferers by such an experiment. The principal danger to be apprehended is, that as instant war with Austria is a prominent condition in the programme of the Roman and Tuscan demagogues, and Mazzini long ago boasted that the treaties of Vienna should serve for wadding to the Italian soldiery on their march to Vienna, these popular governments will provoke a collision with the Austrian forces which will curtail the salutary experience of their detestable reign. But the anarchy of Rome and the fate of Italy are less strange and interesting than that which has befallen, and may yet befall, the fugitive Pontiff. It is a matter of history, however singular and unwelcome such an assertion may sound, that in the very hour of his flight and his fall Pius IX was and is more entirely and essentially Pope and head of the Latin Church than many hundreds of his predecessors have been amidst all the splendour of the Lateran. Personally the deposed Pontiff has exhibited to the world no common share of evangelical virtues, and though his political abilities proved inadequate to execute the moderate reforms he had entered upon, from the unworthiness of his subjects and the infelicity of these times, yet the apparition of so benignant and conscientious a man on the Papal throne, in the midst of the turmoil of Europe, has forcibly struck the imagination and won the affection of the whole Roman Catholic population of Europe. Accordingly, at a crisis when every other constituted authority has been more or less shaken, and every other institution tried, the Romish hierarchy has, in all countries where it exists, extended its influence, and more openly displayed its power. In Germany a council of Roman Catholic prelates, said to be the most considerable which has met since the Council of Trent, is assembled at Wurtzburg to consider of the relations between the Church and the modified civil institutions of the realm. In France the first Republic persecuted to the death a priesthood and a Church which were hated for their connection with the monarchy and the noblesse, and had been poisoned by the venom of Voltaire. The second Republic, on the contrary, at once loudly invoked the rites of the Church and the sanction of Christianity. The chief ceremonies of the

State were sanctified by religious observances; amidst the insurrection of June the Church of France saw an illustrious martyr fall on his errand of mercy to the barricades; and on the eve of a great domestic contest the National Assembly of France listened, not only without impatience, but with enthusiasm, to the impassioned Catholicism of M. de Montalembert, which had certainly never been so much in place in the frigid atmosphere of the ex-Chamber of Peers. The Church of France participates in the deliberations of the Constituent Assembly, and gives to the Republic her support—no longer fatal as it was to the elder branch of the monarchy—in place of the hostility which was so detrimental to the last régime. In a word, the Church of Rome has become popular in Roman Europe. Her cry is everywhere for entire liberty, by which she means the removal of all those restrictions which have accompanied her connection with the temporal power. The experience of Ireland, Belgium, and the United States has convinced her chiefs that for the advancement of that spiritual domination which they aspire to exercise over the minds of mankind democratic government and democratic agitation are by no means unfavourable, and that the power of the Catholic hierarchy may be increased even after the subversion of all the other ancient forms of authority. With these peculiar tendencies to unite the Church to the people and the people to the Church, an extraordinary concurrence of circumstances has placed the head of that Church under the protection of the French Republic, and probably conveyed him to the shores of France. The enthusiasm of the devout, the national vanity of the insincere, and the public feeling of Europe towards an outraged Sovereign, will conspire to surround the progress of Pius IX with extraordinary lustre, and the part he will have to play is well suited to the dignity and mildness of his character. It is strange that a people like the French, who are jealous of excess of foreign influence in their affairs, should nevertheless hail with fresh eagerness the spiritual authority of an Italian priest, whose power is at this moment so real and effectual through the clergy of the land that he may contribute in the first degree to determine the future ruler of France. It is stranger still that the prostration of the intellect in matters of faith and discipline which is the basis of the power of the Romish clergy should survive and even accompany the boldest experiments and the wildest theories in temporal government. But these are but parts of the wonders of the times we live in, and whilst we point them out to observation the resolution of such problems belongs to reflection and futurity.—(TIMES.)

THE DEATH OF IBRAHIM PACHA.—This event is now confirmed. Egypt has been for these eight years fortunately forgotten; and the death of Ibrahim Pacha, which recalls attention to that country, forces one to somewhat of a painful and unusual effort to explain how it is that a country that was the key of European politics and the field of European strife eight years ago, should have been so little thought of since. The fact is, that many years of peace, prosperity, and power had, in 1839, turned the heads of both French and English politicians, and both, unfettered as at present by stern realities, felt themselves at liberty to launch into the region of imaginative policy. We thought of nothing less than bridging over those countries which lie between us and the East. We were to connect the Euphrates with the Thames as a channel for "Watermen" steamers. The desert was to be our high road and Cairo itself a railway station. The French had far more sublime ideas. They wanted an empire to arise in Egypt which was to extend from the mountains of Abyssinia to those of the Taurus, and which was to be a great Asiatic and military rival to Russia, whilst it was a physical obstruction and a naval rival to England, possessing a fleet, which, combined with that of France, might at any time expel us from the Mediterranean. Mehmet Ali and his son Ibrahim were the instruments and the victims of this combined folly. Master of a powerful fleet and of a disciplined army, Mehmet, since 1829, lost no opportunity of employing both. And having lost two sons, his eldest and favourite one, Tousoun, and Ismael, burnt for his cruelties by the Nubians, Ibrahim became the Egyptian generalissimo, just at the time when the country was putting forth its strength. Nor did he prove unequal to the task. In his successive campaigns against the Wahabees, the Greeks, the Syrians, and Turks, Ibrahim showed himself a skilful and experienced leader, whilst the crowning victory over the Grand Vizier at Konieh placed him as a general amongst the fortunate heroes of the age. In another epoch, or at a time when the east was undisturbed by other than eastern influence, such a victory as that of Konieh must have placed the victor on the Turkish throne, and by a change of dynasty, resuscitated the empire. But the hand of Europe weighed on the destinies of the east, and every revolution which that hand does not effect itself it interferes to arrest. The victory of Konieh proved therefore to Ibrahim an empty glory, nay, a dangerous one, for by awaking the jealousy and drawing forth a kind of pronouncement from Russia, it also excited the fears of England, and even of Austria. And when Ibrahim again threatened to make Syria the basis of new military operations, a European diplomatic alliance was already in process of formation, which French ministers and diplomatists were not wary enough to foresee, or adroit enough to prevent. We know the consequences. England interfered. The impetuous spirit of Palmerston forced the Admiral, even against his will, to victory. St. Jean d'Acre fell, Ibrahim was routed by Sir Charles Napier, not of Scinde, but of Syrian memory. Ibrahim and Thiers made a simultaneous retreat from Syria and from the Tuileries; and Mehmet, his family, and his policy henceforth confined to Egypt, first ceased to excite fears, then failed to excite interest, and at last scarcely curiosity. Like true Mussulmans, the rulers of Egypt accepted with resignation their diminished hopes. Their dynasty was, indeed, established in quasi independence; and every dignity and enjoyment were left, save those of ambition and progress. As to Mehmet, he cursed his folly in having built his hopes on the sandy foundation of French sympathy. But his domestic policies soon absorbed his attention. Nor has England found him since his discomfiture either vindictive or jealous. Ibrahim gave still stronger signs of a forgiving temper in his visit to this country. Whilst in France he was received with

almost regal honours, English society welcomed him as a friend, and the Turkish hero had the good sense to consider the Englishman's shake of the hand a greater compliment than the Frenchman's guard of honour and formal salute. Abbas Pacha, the son of Mehmet's eldest son, Toussoun, succeeds both as heir and as actual governor of Egypt. For Mehmet has long sunk into a state of second childhood. When European rivalry ran high in Egypt, Abbas was considered to lean to English interests and ideas, Ibrahim to French. But since European agents have ceased to fan the flame of this rivalry, its spirit has died away from the breasts of Egyptian princes and statesmen. And the East is at peace, because we leave it so.—(DAILY NEWS.)

WEST INDIA MAIL.—The Royal West India Mail Packet *Clyde*, Capt. May, arrived at Southampton yesterday. The weather has been unusually fine during the *Clyde's* passage from the West Indies. In consequence of this the *Clyde* arrived at Southampton three days before she was due. The dates by the *Clyde* are:—Jamaica, Nov. 7; Demerara, Nov. 4; Barbados, Nov. 9; St. Jago de Cuba, Nov. 4; Jacmel, Nov. 9. The freight consists of 677,435 dollars, £386 10s. British coin, 1,500 dollars in gold dust and jewellery, and 574 oz. platinum. On arriving at Fayal it was learned that by a recent order of the governor, all vessels arriving at that island from the ports of Great Britain are refused pratique, and ordered off to Lisbon to perform quarantine there, on account of cholera.

JAMAICA.—The legislature met on the 26th of October. The opening speech of the governor rivalled, in length, the message of an American President. In respect of matter it was meagre. Eight paragraphs were devoted to a lecture on the means of reviving and extending sugar cultivation, containing little that is new or that indicates much practical acquaintance with the subject. Then came the pith of the speech: "I rely on your making provision with your *reputed* liberality, for the exigencies of the public service, and the support of the public credit." The governor then proceeded to dilate on the act passed by the imperial legislature for the relief of encumbered estates in Ireland; and then flew off to the subjects of recaptured slaves and stipendiary magistrates. Next came one other brief passage relating to real business:—"Upon the much debated subject of retrenchment I have no instructions which specifically relate to Jamaica; but, from some other communications, and from observations of what has been said in parliament, and of what has taken place in relation to another colony, I feel justified in expressing an opinion that extreme measures, destructive alike to existing interest and existing institutions, and of all confidence in the stability of public relations, as already constituted by law, would be firmly resisted, and would place the colony in opposition to the home government; but, on the other hand, I am confident that no resolution has been formed by Her Majesty's ministers to reject the consideration of any well-considered economical reform."

The address of the House of Assembly to this speech was presented on the 30th of November. It is little more than a civil acknowledgment of his excellency's kindness, in reading them a lecture on political economy, with respect to financial matters the Assembly say:—"We beg to assure your excellency that it is not our intention to add to the difficulties and distress of the colony by withholding the requisite supplies for the ensuing year; but in providing the means of upholding the public institutions and the public credit, it will be our duty to do so with the strictest attention to the most rigid economy, as we are fully aware that the distressed state of the colony loudly calls upon us to lighten as much as possible the burden of taxation." The address of the Board of Council is, of course, more pangenical. On the 2d November a message from the governor was received by the House of Assembly, relative to the imperial loan. He estimated the amount that would fall to the share of Jamaica at £100,000; recommended immediate provision for the payment of the interest; suggested that the improvement of roads would be the best way of applying the loan; and hinted at the expediency of revising the whole system of parochial taxation in the island. Little business had been transacted in the Assembly, and to the despatch of the mail, beyond nominating committees and bringing in bills for local arrangements. There appeared to be much reserve in the language of the members, and some difficulty in making houses. The news of Lord George Bentinck's death elicited a strong and general expression of regret. The weather was propitious and the crops were promising.

GUANA.—The lieutenant-governor and the colonists are sitting looking at each other as if each expected the other to make the next move. The *Royal Gazette* says:—"No despatches have been received from Earl Grey with regard to the financial position of the colony, at least none that have been promulgated. No session of the Combined Court has been held; none of the Court of Policy. Though, therefore, the finances are in disorder, the greater part of the taxes lost, and the public officers in general unpaid, the political position of the colony is at this moment a negative one. The differences between the official and colonial sections continue, but they assume no active form." In the same journal we find an account of the opening of the George town and Mehania Railway. The weather was good and the crops promising. Immediately on the announcement of the death of Lord G. Bentinck the colours of all the vessels in the Demerara river were hoisted half-mast high. A public testimonial was spoken of.

TRINIDAD.—The council of government assembled in the new council-room for the first time on the 2d of November. Lord Harris indulged in a set speech on the occasion, and took the opportunity to present the answer of the Secretary of the Colonies to the despatch forwarded with the estimates for the year; and to announce that the Trinidad share of the imperial loan would be £89,000, as also to throw out some suggestions as to its application. With regard to the estimates, Earl Grey leaves the question of retrenchment entirely to Lord Harris and the council. His lordship, however, enters into an elaborate argument against the reduction of salaries. Still, if the governor and council will reduce he will let them. The following passage in Lord Harris's despatch is extremely creditable to Lord Harris's disinterestedness; but not quite so creditable to Earl Grey's sense of justice:—"With respect to the apportionment of the reduction at a different rate per cent. upon salaries of different amount, your lordship has proposed a graduated scale which, whilst it would deduct only 1 per cent. from salaries under £200, would subject your own salary to a deduction of 30 per cent. But I cannot concur in the justness of this principle; and I am of opinion that the deduction should be made at one uniform rate per cent. from all salaries whatever, or at all events from all salaries exceeding £150 a year." Lord Harris deserves honour for the noble example he has set our overpaid colonial governors. But Lord Grey cannot be brought to understand how a salary which barely affords necessities of life to a hardworking man, ought not to be so lightly touched as the semi-sinecure (we speak of the class, not of Lord Harris), affording luxuries, of one of his own caste.—(DAILY NEWS.)

BRAZIL.—By Rio letters to the 26th Oct., her Majesty's steam sloop *Alcote*, Com. V. Massingbird, with Mr. Southern, the British minister, and suite on board, arrived at Buenos Ayres on 5th October. Mr. Southern continued on board the steamer, but would land on the 8th, it was expected.